

Sarah Capel
2106 Cowper Drive
Raleigh, NC 27608

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Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530
Fax 202-616-9937
microsoft.atr@usdoc.gov

Dear Ms. Hesse:

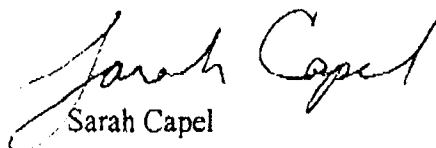
As an attorney, I can appreciate the complexity that the court faces as it reviews the proposed settlement of the Microsoft federal antitrust lawsuit. But I am impressed by the fact that the consent decree under consideration was developed in negotiations overseen by a court-appointed mediator, that it is supported by the U.S. Attorney General and that it has been agreed to by North Carolina's Attorney General.

Further, it is telling that the under the proposal Microsoft would agree to accept significant changes in its business practices, as well as the continuing supervision of a technical committee empowered to review the company's compliance with the agreement.

This certainly seems to me to be adequate protection for Microsoft's competitors, without at the same time crippling the company's ability to continue providing excellent products for use in schools, businesses and homes.

I hope the agreement will be approved.

Sincerely,


Sarah Capel